What is claimed is:

1. A process for preparing 6-alkoxy-(6H)-dibenzo[c,e][1,2]oxaphosphorins,

5 characterized in that 6H-dibenzo[c,e][1,2]oxaphosphorin 6-oxides of the formula I

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where R3, R4 = alkyl, alkoxy, alkylthio, alkenyl, alkynyl, aryl, heteroaryl, cycloalkyl groups

are used as the reactant.

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- 2. The process as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the preparation is effected in the following steps:
- 20 1) providing at least one solvent,
 - 2) adding the reactant
 - 3) adding an ortho ester and
 - 4) adding alcohol if it has not already been used under stage 1).

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- 3. The process as claimed in one of claims 1 and 2, characterized in that the solvent used is an alcohol or alcohol-containing mixture.
- 30 4. The process as claimed in claim 3,

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6-oxides.

characterized in that alcohols of the formula R_2OH are used where R_2 is alkyl.

5. The process as claimed in one or more of claims 1 to 4, characterized in that the reaction is carried out in the presence of a compound capable of ester formation with 6H-dibenzo[c,e][1,2]oxaphosphorin

The process as claimed in one of claims 1 to 5, characterized in that the reaction is carried out

in the presence of a trialkyl orthoformate.

- 15 7. The process as claimed in claim 6, characterized in that the reaction is carried out in the presence of trimethyl or triethyl orthoformate.
- 20 8. The process as claimed in one of claims 1 to 7, characterized in that it is carried out in the presence of catalysts.
- The process as claimed in claim 8,
 characterized in that the catalysts used are Lewis acids or Brønsted acids.
- 10. The process as claimed in claim 9, characterized in that the acids used are proton donors.
 - 11. The process as claimed in claim 10, characterized in that the acids used are hydrogen halides.
 - 12. The process as claimed in claim 1-11,

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characterized in that the excess alcohol is removed and the catalyst is simultaneously recycled.